Dear Gull Lake Families and Staff,

We have been rolling out the “One Community, One Book” (OCOB) program for Gull Lake Community Schools with a planned hard launch in February for kids and families. We are grateful to our Gull Lake Community Schools Foundation for generously sponsoring this community engagement activity that focuses on the love of literacy and supports the skills for lifetime learning. This program pulls all of us together to promote reading, writing, and speaking with purpose as key assets for a successful future.

I can recall the vivid experience of reading with my parents during my formative years. Diving into a book with a caring adult was akin to entering a safe haven where my imagination could grow and thrive. In addition to the wide variety of titles I encountered with my parents, there was a collection of Childcraft books and the World Book Encyclopedia at my fingertips for further exploration on my own. These resources allowed me to encounter other places and cultures right from home. No plane tickets or passport required!

Perhaps the most important aspect of achieving literacy is the fact that it is an active pursuit. There is nothing passive about it, and it builds the capacity for more self-directed learning. The best thing we can do for our kids is to promote the love of learning and deep engagement while limiting passive distractions that can come with too much screen time and social media exposure. The more connections we make to the world and to each other through reading, the more we sense our meaning and purpose.

We are fortunate to have such great resources in our District and community. We look forward to engaging together in our “One Community, One Book” program in the days ahead and wish you the best of success in unraveling the clues as they are revealed!

Have a wonderful weekend,

Raphael Rittenhouse/Superintendent
Gull Lake Community Schools

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Updates

1/2 day of school on February 1st and 2nd for parent teacher conferences.

Early Release on February 14th.

No school on February 23rd for Mid-Winter Break.